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In the Supreme Court of Iowa

In the Matter of Amendments to)		CLERK SUPREME COURT
Iowa Court Rules Chapter 9—)	Order	
Child Support Guidelines)		

Pursuant to Iowa Code section 598.21B and the federal Family Support Act of 1988, the supreme court has undertaken its quadrennial review of Iowa's Child Support Guidelines. The court approves amendments to Chapter 9 of the Iowa Court Rules, effective January 1, 2018. Provided with this order are the amended rules of Chapter 9 in strikethrough and underscore format, including the child support tables, grids, schedules, and worksheets.

The review process included the court's establishment of the 2016 Child Support Guidelines Review Committee (Committee). The Committee conducted a thorough review of the current Iowa child support guidelines and submitted its report and recommendations to the court. The Committee made 14 separate recommendations.

After careful review, the Committee recommended not making any changes at this time to Iowa's Schedule of Basic Support Obligations, retaining the current Pure Income Shares Model for calculating support, making no change to the current minimum support obligation amount of \$30 per month for one child and \$50 per month for two or more children, and maintaining the current combined adjusted net maximum monthly income limit of \$25,000 in the Schedule of Basic Support Obligations.

The Committee recommended several substantive changes to the Iowa child support scheme, including the following:

 More clearly defining the allowable child(ren)'s portion of the premium cost of health insurance to be used in calculating support and amending rule 9.14(5) accordingly. • Amending rule 9.12(3) to allow the amount of cash medical support to be the lesser of the actual cost of the hawk-i premium or the amount calculated under rule 9.12(4).

• Adding a definition for gross monthly income and clarifying the treatment of spousal support in child support calculations with amendments to rule 9.5.

 Striking the child care variance language in rule 9.11(2) and adopting a new rule 9.11A to address specifically the court's ability to vary from the guidelines based on the cost of child care.

 Requiring support orders to include step-down provisions for child support in cases involving multiple children with new rule 9.14(6).

The Committee included appropriate adjustments to applicable chapter 9 grids, and worksheets consistent with its recommendations. The Committee's full report and recommendations are available on the Iowa Judicial Branch website.

Prior to its full consideration, the court solicited public comment on the Committee's report and recommendations. After careful review of the report and recommendations and of the comments received, the court adopts these recommendations as amendments to chapter 9 of the Iowa Court Rules as provided with this order.

The amended rules and revised child support grids and worksheets are effective January 1, 2018.

Dated this 20th day of July, 2017.

The Supreme Court of Iowa

By Mark S. Cady, Chief Justice